

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE,  
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK,  
NEW YORK, JULY 10, 1855.

*To whomsoever it may concern, and particularly to the Masters, Wardens and Brethren of the Masonic Fraternity  
in the State of New York, GREETING:*

It is with painful regret we have to announce that a certain number of Masons, a portion of HOLLAND LODGE, No. 8, among whom is the Master, having possession of the warrant, have declared themselves "Free and Independent" of our jurisdiction, thus forming a spurious Body of Masons, holding a clandestine relation to our Grand Lodge. We have demanded of the Master the warrant and properties, which order has not been obeyed.

**Be it known therefore, that we do by these presents forbid all Masonic intercourse with the said clandestine Lodge, or with any of its members.**

The rule of discipline consequent upon a violation of this edict will be strictly enforced.

For the information of the Craft, and to prevent confusion, we will state that those members of the Lodge, who are true to our allegiance and true to the duties devolving upon them as Masons, have petitioned us for their warrant, that the labors of the Lodge may be continued. The first seven on the application are the M. W. WM. H. MILNOR, L. V. D. WYCOFF, JAMES T. BACHE, G. I. HINMAN, T. F. COMPTON, R. C. KEMP, and N. N. HALSTEAD. Their prayer has been granted, and a warrant of authority issued in place of the old warrant, until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, or until the latter can be obtained.

As the labors of HOLLAND LODGE, No. 8, are continued by a warrant from us, in due form, it will be necessary that great care be taken to preserve the distinction between Holland Lodge, No. 8, under our jurisdiction, and the clandestine body who presume to assume the same name and number, particularly as the latter have possession of the old warrant belonging to Holland Lodge, and by which they may endeavor to set forth their legitimacy.

Given under our hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge, this 10th day of July, A.D., 1855.

JOSEPH D. EVANS,  
*Grand Master.*

Attest.

  
*Grand Secretary.*

N. B. The presiding officer of each Lodge will have the above read in open Lodge, and is requested to have the same posted in some conspicuous place near the hall door.